



City of Tucson Parks & Recreation Department

TUCSON GREENS COMMITTEE MINUTES OF APRIL 14, 2010

The Regular Meeting of the Tucson Greens Committee was called to order on Wednesday, April 14, 2010. The meeting was held at Tucson Parks and Recreation, Randolph Golf Complex, Cactus Room, 600 S. Alvernon Way, Tucson, Arizona.

Committee Members present: Jack Rickard, Frank Salbego, Jim Benjamin, Chuck Cushman, Raul Navarro, Cyril Shettleroe and Scott Webster. Members absent: Joan Reilly and Joe Rodriguez. Advisory Member present: Dr. David Kopec.

City Staff in Attendance: Fred Gray (Director – Parks and Recreation), Mike Hayes (Deputy Director – Parks and Recreation / Golf), Brent Newcomb (Golf Administrator), Steve Moors (Golf Operations Superintendent), Pam Drake (Golf Pro – Randolph), Paul Noonan (Golf Pro – Silverbell), Tom Tatum (Golf Pro – Fred Enke), Franklin Anzalone (Concessions Manager), and Robbee Robinson (Food & Beverage Supervisor – Randolph).

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 25, 2010

Mr. Salbego made the motion to approve the Minutes.

Mr. Navarro seconded the motion.

All were in favor, Minutes were approved 7 - 0.

III. CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

Mr. Randy Bushman, of 5900 South Hillerman, 85746, is a member of the Swingers Golf Club. His Club played at El Rio on Monday, April 12, and he complained that there were lots of grass clippings on the greens aprons.

IV. SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Mr. Rickard announced that Mr. Jim Benjamin has been appointed to the vacant Ward III seat previously filled by Mr. Pagel.

V. GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE REPORT

Mr. Newcomb presented his Report, and spoke of how unusually cold the month of March had been. He continued that even with the cold temperatures, the fairways at El Rio were growing and they had been mowed last week. He also said that the Khaki weed seemed to have much less of a presence this year compared to last.

Mr. Newcomb shared with the Committee that the new 'Combo' tee markers were in place on Randolph, El Rio and Fred Enke.

VI. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS AND COMMENTS

A. Golf Course Maintenance Inspection / Standards

No Report

B. City Amateur

Mr. Hayes reminded the Committee that this year's Men's City Amateur would be held on April 24 and 25; and May 1 and 2; and that all five courses will be used.

At this time, Mr. Shettleroe made the motion to Table Agenda Items 8 – 13, in order to allow the Committee all the time needed for Item 7. Ms. Salbego seconded the motion. All were in favor, 7 - 0.

VII. BUDGET OPTIONS BALANCING SYSTEM (BOBS) – DISCUSSION – MR. SALBEGO

Mr. Gray updated the Committee with Mayor and Council action regarding the Golf related BOBS. The sale of the Randolph course was no longer being considered. And, Mayor and Council asked for a recommendation from the Greens Committee for the privatizing of El Rio, Silverbell and Fred Enke. Mr. Gray suggested that the Committee perform their due diligence, weighing the positives and negatives of this proposal.

Mr. Hayes reviewed a Summary of Operations for Surveyed Municipalities. He had contacted Pima County, the City of Phoenix, the City of Casa Grande, and the City of Palm Beach, FL. As indicated on his Report there was a mix of municipally operated and contractor operated facilities. He continued that everyone he spoke with told him they were satisfied with their business model.

Mr. Salbego said he had spoken with Chicago which is contractor operated and came away with the question of who was watching the contractor.

Mr. Hayes made reference to the first to items in the Informational Materials provided to the members.

Mr. Gray added that his experience has shown that a contract is only as good as its language. And that oversight authority should always be considered, and documented in any agreement.

Mr. Benjamin stated that the three courses in question are not profitable now, and that the only way a contractor could guarantee the City revenue, and make a profit; would be to raise green fees.

Dr. Kopec asked if the \$6,000,000 in capital improvements includes equipment.

Mr. Moors replied it did not but over the past 5 or 6 years equipment purchases had been minimal, totaling \$550,000 to \$600,000 including golf carts.

Mr. Navarro said that the Informational Materials provided were interesting, what was really relevant was the golf business in southern Arizona.

Mr. Salbego asked if there was a time table for their recommendation to the Mayor and Council.

Mr. Gray replied that he thought 2 or 3 months would be a reasonable expectation.

Mr. Webster and Mr. Shettleroe each expressed negative experiences with golf businesses that contracted their operations.

VIII. TUCSON CITY GOLF OPERATIONAL & FISCAL PLANNING – DISCUSSION – STAFF

Tabled.

IX. FIRST TEE / EL RIO – UPDATE

Tabled.

X. D.I.V.O.T.S. – UPDATE

Tabled.

XI. OPERATING REVENUES AND EXPENSES REPORT

Tabled.

XII. GOLF PLAY STATISTICS

Tabled.

XIII. CONCESSIONS REPORT

Tabled.

XIV. CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

None

XV. NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION

The next Tucson Greens Committee meeting will be a Special Meeting, to be held on Thursday, April 29, at the Randolph Golf Complex, in the Cactus Room, at 3:00 P.M.

XVI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

BOBS – Discussion – Committee

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Shettleroe made the motion to adjourn.

Ms. Salbego seconded the motion.

All were in favor, 7 - 0.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:50 P.M.